

## **January 12, 2026 Town Administrator Update**

*I was on vacation from December 22<sup>nd</sup> through January 5<sup>th</sup>. I will be at Connect 351 from Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> through Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.*

### **Boards, Committees and Departments**

I have completed the new FY27 budget spreadsheet and set up meeting times with department heads for the second week in January to review budget requests.

### **Grants**

Conway currently has nine grants which were either awarded, recently submitted or under consideration.

1. **Earmark** - \$700,000 for a new fire truck. The USDA has not yet sent us a formal notice however Rep. McGovern's office expects we should hear shortly about this earmark.
2. **Earmark** - \$75,000 for work on Shelburne Falls Road. This earmark was through Senator Paul Mark's office under the supplemental budget. I have submitted the initial paperwork for this earmark. Working with FRCOG staff their suggestion is to hire a MassDOT prequalified engineer to study Shelburne Falls Road and work on design plans for embankment stabilization.
3. **MassDOT speed sign** – Chief Bates is interested in applying for this grant to acquire a couple more speed signs for Route 116.
4. **MassDOT Grant Central** – I have submitted a request for \$250,000 for a new grader. If awarded the \$200,000 from Town Meeting could be added to this amount (with Town Meeting approval) to purchase a new instead of a used grader.
5. **MassDOT Grant Central** – Jeff Bellion and I submitted the grant application for the Brester Road culvert repair design and permitting.
6. **Massworks Pine Hill & Shelburne Falls Road** – Ron has submitted for reimbursement for the paving and excavation work done to date.
7. **MVP 2.0** – the team has approved the community liaisons for Conway/Ashfield and our first meeting will be at the Conway Inn this Thursday to begin the process.
8. **MVP FY26** – For work on the Manwell property, GZA staff began preparation of data deliverables after completion of field work in November and also collected the bulk of the transect and longitudinal profile data. Drone flight to collect additional topographic data.
9. **MOD Accessibility Self-Evaluation** – I had a first meeting with the Institute for Human-Centered Design (IHCD) and a date was set for a public meeting to be held from 1:00-3:00 PM on 2/5/26 at the Town Hall to elicit resident feedback and participation. All work has to be completed by the end of this fiscal year. An article will also be posted in the February issue of the *Conway Currents*.

### **Meetings attended**

I attended the first South County shared services budget group meeting,

I've attended the first Human Resources class through Suffolk University and MMA. These classes are every Friday through the middle of February.